



Food Trucks at CTDOT Rest Areas and Information Centers

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is required for a food truck to operate at a CTDOT Rest Area?

A food truck operator must obtain a permit from the CTDOT by submitting a completed [application](#) to CTDOTCOVID@ct.gov. The application requires the following:

- A valid food truck permit or license from the licensure/permit agency, such as one issued by a city health department or health district, located within the county the food truck will operate; and
- Proof of a current liability insurance policy (see details in application).

2. What additional rules or restrictions are required with the food truck permit for CTDOT Rest Areas?

- Adhere to all public health and safety COVID-19 measures that have been issued from the Governor related to food service, which includes limiting customer contact and social distancing.
- Must be self-contained food trucks with their own sources of power and water.
- Must provide their own garbage receptacles, pick up any associated litter, and remove the garbage to either the disposal area designated by Rest Area Attendants or offsite.
- No sale of alcoholic beverages or commodities
- No advertising inside the Rest Area or along the highway (CTDOT is providing electronic signage)
- No sound or voice amplification equipment is permitted.

3. How will CTDOT support food truck operators adhere to COVID-19 public health and safety measures?

CTDOT will tape off 6-ft social distancing markers for customers to stand and provide signage on social distancing. CTDOT will not be providing masks, gloves, hand sanitizer or cleaning supplies to food truck operators.

4. When will the food truck Rest Area permit expire?

The permit will automatically expire when either rules prohibiting commercial activity, (which have been suspended because of the public health crisis) are reinstated by the Federal Highway Administration or the Governor terminates the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020.

5. Is there an application or permit fee for the food truck rest area permit?

No. The application and permit are free of charge.

6. How many food trucks can each Rest Area accommodate?

Each rest area can accommodate four food trucks at a time, however the number of spots available are subject to change as necessary.

7. What are the hours/days food trucks will be authorized to operate under their permit?

While Rest Areas are operational 24/7, food trucks will be authorized to operate between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

8. Will all CTDOT Rest Areas be open to food truck operations?

No. CTDOT has made space available for food truck operations at four designated locations: Danbury, Middletown, North Stonington and Wallingford (where access to food options appear to be limited).

9. Where specifically are the designated Rest Areas for food truck operations (which exits)?

Danbury I-84 Eastbound	Exit 2
Middletown I-91 Northbound	Northbound past exit 19
North Stonington I-95 Southbound	Southbound past exit 93
Wallingford I-91 Southbound	Southbound past exit 15

10. Will CTDOT provide a permit to a food truck with a locally-issued department of health or health district license from outside of the county the food truck will operate?

Yes. Locally-issued licensees will receive priority as permits are issued, but food trucks from outside a county will still be considered for permits.

11. What is the traffic volume at these Rest Areas?

In response to the COVID public health emergency, traffic volumes have shifted on Connecticut highways. However, the following information is available:

	During Peak Hours <i>[Pre-COVID Data before "Be Safe, Stay Home"; 2005 Study]</i>	Recent Anecdotal Feedback/Observations of Greatest Needs
Danbury I-84 Eastbound	173 –Sundays 1:00 PM	Monday-Friday 5:00 AM – 11:00 AM 3:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Middletown I-91 Northbound	154 – Fridays 1:00 PM	Monday-Friday 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
North Stonington I-95 Southbound	187 – Sundays 4:00 PM	Daytime Hours
Wallingford I-91 Southbound	94 – Fridays 1:00 PM	Overnight Hours

12. Will food truck have any guarantees for customers or business?

No.

13. Will there be assigned parking spots for the food trucks or will it change daily (first come first serve)?

Spots will not be assigned in the areas designated for food trucks.

14. Will food trucks have access to electrical outlets?

No.

15. Will there be access to water and drainage?

No.

16. Will there be a place to discard oil?

No.

17. If a food truck plans to do multiple days, can it be parked overnight?

No. Based on best practices observed in other states, CTDOT is encouraging enhanced sanitization that can be best achieved with daily removal.

18. Does the State Police patrol Rest Areas at night?

Increased patrols can be accommodated as necessary.